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Dear Secretary Abraham:

I read that your administration is pushing to get the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste facility in full operation. Also I have heard of some protest about it so here is some ammunition to fight back with.

Is groundwater contamination really a concern? If the waste is encased in concrete or some other means to make it impossible for the radioactive particles to move out and if sump pumps to prevent groundwater seepage from reaching the containers are installed then once again fears are allayed.

Does the entire facility have to be completed before waste can be shipped or is enough completed to start shipping waste there now?

To help quiet those in opposition to Yucca you could offer a proposal to put a reprocessing center there for the extraction of fuel from nuclear waste. Not only would this solidify Republican power in Nevada, it would also provide jobs for the locals and reduce the actual waste that is put in eternal storage. Disregard hysterical environmentalists and suggest that they prove renewable energy sources by putting their verbal "hot air" to generating electricity. As a side thought would it be even safer and cheaper to deposit nuclear waste where the ocean bed's continental plates meet. As one plate slides under the other the waste would be buried and safely recycled back towards the earth's molten core.

As concerns California, well they did it to themselves. Caps on rate increases are a helpful idea to lessen extreme profiteering but price caps are a big no. Price caps would reduce and even stop needed investment in new generation and transmission facilities. California is learning a lesson on why it needs to think ahead more on meeting basic needs before luxury needs. If it hasn't been done already I think it would be appropriate for more money to be devoted to fusion research. Some of the programs serving this area are at The Naval Research Facility, Argonne National Labs, Oak Ridge National Labs, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory and a thinktank referred as HIF- VNL (Heavy Ion Fusion-Virtual National Laboratory). In the future fusion will play a very important role in our society.

If no one has given a thank you to you and your people then you certainly deserve one now, so thanks and hang in there.

Respectfully,  
Barry R. Dent

*Barry R. Dent*